

If you ever want to see our Nation's history in action, I invite you. Come to my district, and I will take you to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum, where many of my colleagues that have come and taken me up on that offer have been able to walk into a room and see an original copy, an original. They didn't have Xerox machines or copy machines back then. They had to handwrite the original copies of the Emancipation Proclamation.

That is what Abraham Lincoln means to our Nation's history and society's history and the ills that even existed after Abraham Lincoln was assassinated.

We have to do better in this country. We can do better, and we are doing better. But in the end, we live in the greatest country in the history of the world that sends the most diverse people to our Nation's Capitol to stand here and debate freely how to govern our great Nation.

We will fight, and we will argue, but in the end, we will shake hands, disagree, walk away, and understand that we are better because we are not separated. We are not just Republicans and Democrats; we are Americans.

When tragedy hits the country, we come together in this House, and we stand together as Americans. I hope that continues even in the more polarizing environment that we have seen in this House in my lifetime.

I want to make a prediction that I hope doesn't come true. I hope that we can change that by setting an example in this House. I hope we don't try to continue to separate ourselves. I predict there will come a day when people will be allowed into a restaurant based upon their political affiliation or not. That is sad. I hope I am wrong.

I see so many opportunities in our Nation right now that are taken by those who don't want us to believe in each other. They are taken away by social media posts that will continue to try and divide us.

I came here 10 years ago and got the ability to have dinner when I was in freshman orientation in Statuary Hall. I looked down and saw the plaque that sits in Statuary Hall that says Abraham Lincoln, his desk sits here, when he served one term in the House of Representatives.

It hit me that day. It sent chills that I have some pretty big shoes to fill, representing some of the same geography that Abraham Lincoln did when he was here centuries ago.

I knew we had a lot of work to do, and I will tell you, this institution has done big things over my decade serving here.

There are things like this, though, that I hope send a message to our Nation that we will stand up against those parts of our Nation's history like Roger Taney, the most dreadful parts of our Nation's history.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone, especially my colleagues on the other side

of the aisle, to please ensure that history continues to be taught in our Nation's schools, that we learn about people like Roger Taney so that people in America don't repeat the same disastrous decisions that we saw happen with the Dred Scott decision.

Mr. Speaker, I think I have said enough. I support this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleague, Chairperson LOFGREN of the House Administration Committee, for her work on this legislation. I will tell the chair that while we didn't always agree on issues coming in front of our committee, and we didn't always agree on how to run this institution, I always enjoyed being able to serve with her. It may not be reciprocated, but that is okay.

□ 1545

But in the end, you have a great team that I really enjoyed working with. I sincerely hope that this institution becomes less polarized. I certainly hope this institution becomes an institution where we can all govern together and make this country even greater than it is today.

Vote for this bill.

Let's get rid of Roger Taney.

Let's make him a gone-y once again.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I would simply ask that all Members support this bill.

There have been a lot of really bad Supreme Court cases over the years, but I don't think it can be said better than Senator Charles Sumner said all the way back in 1865: The Dred Scott decision was more thoroughly abominable than anything of its kind in history.

Chief Justice Taney, the author of this dreadful decision, is really a scar on America and should not be in a place of honor in our Capitol.

Support this bill, and we will remove that stain.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 5229.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Chair declares the House in recess subject to the call of the Chair.

Accordingly (at 3 o'clock and 46 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1803

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro

tempore (Mr. LIEU) at 6 o'clock and 3 minutes p.m.

EQUAL ACCESS TO GREEN CARDS FOR LEGAL EMPLOYMENT ACT OF 2022

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, the unfinished business is the vote on the motion to recommit on the bill (H.R. 3648) to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to eliminate the per-country numerical limitation for employment-based immigrants, to increase the per-country numerical limitation for family-sponsored immigrants, and for other purposes, offered by the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BISHOP), on which the yeas and nays were ordered.

The Clerk will redesignate the motion.

The Clerk redesignated the motion.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 1(c) of rule XIX, further consideration of H.R. 3648 is postponed.

VAWA TECHNICAL AMENDMENT ACT OF 2022

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 7) to make a technical amendment to the Violence Against Women Act of 1994, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 7

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "VAWA Technical Amendment Act of 2022".

SEC. 2. GRANTS TO COMBAT VIOLENT CRIMES.

(a) AMENDMENT.—Section 2001(d) of title I of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. 1041(d)) is amended—

(1) in paragraph (1)—

(A) in subparagraph (A), by inserting "or Native Hawaiian" after "Indian";

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "or Native Hawaiian" after "Indian";

(C) in subparagraph (C)—

(i) by inserting "or Native Hawaiian communities" after "tribal communities"; and

(ii) by inserting "or Native Hawaiian" after "Indian"; and

(D) in subparagraph (D)—

(i) by inserting "or Native Hawaiian communities" after "Indian tribes"; and

(ii) by inserting "or Native Hawaiian" after "against Indian";

(2) in paragraph (2)—

(A) in subparagraph (A)(iii), by inserting "or Native Hawaiian communities" after "Indian tribes"; and

(B) in subparagraph (B), by inserting "or Native Hawaiian communities" after "Indian tribes"; and

(3) by adding at the end the following:

"(6) NATIVE HAWAIIAN DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term 'Native Hawaiian' has the meaning given that term in section 801 of the Native American Housing Assistance and

Self-Determination Act of 1996 (25 U.S.C. 4221)."

(b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 40002(a)(42) of the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 (34 U.S.C. 12291(a)(42)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (A)—

(A) by inserting “, Native Hawaiian organizations, or the Native Hawaiian community” after “Indian service providers”;

(B) by inserting “, organizations, or communities” after “member providers”; and

(C) by inserting “or Native Hawaiian” after “designed to assist Indian”; and

(2) in subparagraph (B)—

(A) in clause (i), by inserting “, organizations, or communities” after “member service providers”; and

(B) in clause (ii), by inserting “or Native Hawaiian communities” after “tribal communities”.

SEC. 3.

This Act shall become effective one day after enactment.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) and the gentleman from Indiana (Mrs. SPARTZ) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on S. 7.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 7, which would amend the Violence Against Women Act to ensure that Native Hawaiian women can access the benefits and support included in the critical Violence Against Women Act.

According to the National Institute of Justice, more than 1.5 million American Indian and Alaska Native women have experienced violence in their lifetime, while women in these communities experience significantly higher levels of sexual violence and stalking.

Since its introduction in 1994, the Violence Against Women Act has provided billions of dollars of grant funding to address the needs of those who have survived domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, dating violence, and other crimes against women.

One of VAWA's major grant programs, the Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors grants, commonly known as STOP grants, provides funding for eligible Native organizations to help combat sexual violence and support victims and survivors. However, due to an error in drafting language, which was first made known to Congress and the Department of Justice in 2016, Native Hawaiian organizations have been unable to access this funding to serve Native Hawaiian victims and survivors.

Specifically, Native Hawaiian organizations are able to apply for STOP grant funding, but they cannot use

those funds to actually serve the Native Hawaiian community. As a result of this drafting oversight, Native Hawaiian women are denied access to these critical resources, which are meant to encourage the development and improvement of effective victim advocacy and services in cases involving violent crimes against women and to strengthen services to victims.

S. 7 would amend the act to include specific references to Native Hawaiians and Native Hawaiian communities and organizations. This simple fix would make certain that all victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence, including Native Hawaiian women, are able to access the services and support they need to rebuild their lives.

I thank Senator MAZIE HIRONO for introducing this modest but important legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. SPARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

S. 7, the VAWA Technical Amendment Act of 2022, makes a very small technical amendment to the Violence Against Women Act reauthorization that was signed into law in March of this year.

The Violence Against Women Act provides resources to law enforcement and others to address the needs of those who have survived domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and other crimes against women. S. 7 ensures that Native Hawaiian survivors will also have access to programs and resources provided under the act.

Currently, the Attorney General is directed to make Violence Against Women Act grants to assist Indian Tribes. This bill makes Native Hawaiian communities eligible for the same grants.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, for nearly three decades, the Violence Against Women Act has provided critical funding to organizations that support victims and survivors of gender-based violence. However, Native Hawaiian women, who experience disproportionately high levels of sexual violence, have been excluded from accessing these much-needed resources.

S. 7 would allow Native Hawaiian victims and survivors to receive the support they need and would allow Native Hawaiian organizations to increase their efforts to combat sexual violence.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to support the bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of S. 7, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Technical Amendment Act of 2022. This bill will ensure the full inclusion of Native Hawaiians, the indigenous peoples of our country whose origins lie in Hawaii, in the Services, Training, Officers and Prosecutors (STOP) Grants for Tribal Coalitions program under VAWA.

Violence against indigenous women has reached crisis levels on tribal lands and in Alaska Native villages. In Hawaii, gender-based violence against Native Hawaiians is also at a breaking point.

Much like their American Indian and Alaska Native counterparts elsewhere, Native Hawaiians face substantially higher rates of intimate partner violence, family violence, sexual assault and sex trafficking than any other racial or ethnic group in Hawaii. According to most available data from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, 67 to 77 percent of sex trafficking victims in Hawaii are Native Hawaiian women and girls, and 37 percent of reported child sex trafficking cases in Hawaii involve Native Hawaiians. They are also disproportionately represented across the many forms of sexual violence.

To address these issues within Native Hawaiian communities, we must develop and implement community-driven, culturally relevant and intergenerational approaches for supporting Native Hawaiian women. Unfortunately, because of a drafting error in the 2013 VAWA reauthorization bill, Native Hawaiian domestic violence victims have been excluded from VAWA STOP Grants, which deliver just such programs, and thus effectively deprived of vital services and support. While tribal coalitions and Native Hawaiian Organizations are eligible for STOP Grant funding, both tribal coalitions and Native Hawaiian Organizations are limited to only serving American Indians and Alaska Natives, not Native Hawaiians. This must be corrected.

The VAWA Technical Amendment Act simply adds Native Hawaiians as eligible for VAWA-related services from Native nonprofit grantees. Any Native Hawaiian Organization interested and eligible to provide critical domestic violence and sexual assault services to Native Hawaiian survivors must be given the opportunity to do so. This technical correction will allow this to happen, ensuring that Native Hawaiian Organizations can serve Native Hawaiians in need of these critical services.

More work lies ahead for our federal government to address and eliminate the ongoing violence against indigenous women in our country, and I look forward to continuing to work with my colleagues on these efforts to support all Native survivors of domestic and sexual violence.

Mahalo.

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of S. 7, the “VAWA Technical Amendment Act of 2022,” that would ensure Native Hawaiian victims and survivors of domestic violence, dating violence, sex trafficking, and other such crimes have access to vital VAWA resources.

When the Violence Against Women Act first became law in 1994, it represented an historic shift in the federal government's role in combating violent crimes committed against

women. Due to the importance of the legislation and its resulting success, VAWA was reauthorized on an overwhelming bipartisan basis in 2000, 2005, and 2013.

As we negotiated the most recent reauthorization, I was adamant that Congress acknowledge the cries of the multitude of voiceless native women. That we should do more to improve coordination and communication between law enforcement agencies, empower tribal governments with resources, and improve the way we collect data about missing and murdered native women.

And although each piece of VAWA is critical to support and protect victims of violence, I thought it necessary to pay special attention to the plight of tribal women, who suffer extraordinarily high rates of victimization.

That is why we must pass the “VAWA Technical Amendment Act of 2022”—to make sure that Native Hawaiian victims and survivors are supported and protected.

The VAWA Reauthorization—which made its way to the President’s desk this year—made several improvements to the Services, Training, Officers, and Prosecutors (STOP) grant program.

The STOP grant program was established to assist state, territorial, local, and Tribal governments in responding to violent crimes against women, including the crimes of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking, as well as the appropriate treatment of victims.

The grants have long been used to develop effective strategies to assist victims and survivors through nonprofit, community organizations.

Eligibility for the grants was expanded under the reauthorization for individuals and grantees, and the authorized uses of grants under the expansion now include supportive services for American Indian victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, and stalking.

Unfortunately, due to a drafting error, Native Hawaiian organizations have been unable to access STOP grant funds for the benefit of Native Hawaiian women, thereby denying an entire community of victims and survivors restorative, stabilizing care. This is a serious problem with an uncomplicated solution.

S. 7 would amend relevant statutory provisions to make sure Native Hawaiian organizations can render aid to their communities using STOP grant funding.

As has always been true, the Violence Against Women Act Reauthorization is comprehensive and inclusive legislation that responds to the many varied and changing needs of diverse victims and survivors across the country by making meaningful improvements. This bill exemplifies that sentiment.

I applaud Senator MAZIE HIRONO for spearheading this bill to ensure that no victim or survivor is denied access to VAWA’s life-saving resources, and I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support it.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. NADLER) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, S. 7.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING ACT OF 2021

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (S. 2991) to establish a Department of Homeland Security Center for Countering Human Trafficking, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

S. 2991

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Countering Human Trafficking Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the victim-centered approach must become universally understood, adopted, and practiced;

(2) criminal justice efforts must increase the focus on, and adeptness at, investigating and prosecuting forced labor cases;

(3) corporations must eradicate forced labor from their supply chains;

(4) the Department of Homeland Security must lead by example—

(A) by ensuring that its government supply chain of contracts and procurement are not tainted by forced labor; and

(B) by leveraging all of its authorities against the importation of goods produced with forced labor; and

(5) human trafficking training, awareness, identification, and screening efforts—

(A) are a necessary first step for prevention, protection, and enforcement; and

(B) should be evidence-based to be most effective.

SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CENTER FOR COUNTERING HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall operate, within U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations, the Center for Countering Human Trafficking (referred to in this Act as “CCHT”).

(2) PURPOSE.—The purpose of CCHT shall be to serve at the forefront of the Department of Homeland Security’s unified global efforts to counter human trafficking through law enforcement operations and victim protection, prevention, and awareness programs.

(3) ADMINISTRATION.—Homeland Security Investigations shall—

(A) maintain a concept of operations that identifies CCHT participants, funding, core functions, and personnel; and

(B) update such concept of operations, as needed, to accommodate its mission and the threats to such mission.

(4) PERSONNEL.—

(A) DIRECTOR.—The Secretary of Homeland Security shall appoint a CCHT Director, who shall—

(i) be a member of the Senior Executive Service; and

(ii) serve as the Department of Homeland Security’s representative on human trafficking.

(B) MINIMUM CORE PERSONNEL REQUIREMENTS.—Subject to appropriations, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure that CCHT is staffed with at least 45 employees in order to maintain continuity of effort, subject matter expertise, and necessary support to the Department of Homeland Security, including—

(i) employees who are responsible for the Continued Presence Program and other victim protection duties;

(ii) employees who are responsible for training, including curriculum development, and public awareness and education;

(iii) employees who are responsible for stakeholder engagement, Federal inter-agency coordination, multilateral partnerships, and policy;

(iv) employees who are responsible for public relations, human resources, evaluation, data analysis and reporting, and information technology;

(v) special agents and criminal analysts necessary to accomplish its mission of combating human trafficking and the importation of goods produced with forced labor; and

(vi) managers.

(b) OPERATIONS UNIT.—The CCHT Director shall operate, within CCHT, an Operations Unit, which shall, at a minimum—

(1) support criminal investigations of human trafficking (including sex trafficking and forced labor)—

(A) by developing, tracking, and coordinating leads; and

(B) by providing subject matter expertise;

(2) augment the enforcement of the prohibition on the importation of goods produced with forced labor through civil and criminal authorities;

(3) coordinate a Department-wide effort to conduct procurement audits and enforcement actions, including suspension and debarment, in order to mitigate the risk of human trafficking throughout Department acquisitions and contracts; and

(4) support all CCHT enforcement efforts with intelligence by conducting lead development, lead validation, case support, strategic analysis, and data analytics.

(c) PROTECTION AND AWARENESS PROGRAMS UNIT.—The CCHT Director shall operate, within CCHT, a Protection and Awareness Programs Unit, which shall—

(1) incorporate a victim-centered approach throughout Department of Homeland Security policies, training, and practices;

(2) operate a comprehensive Continued Presence program;

(3) conduct, review, and assist with Department of Homeland Security human trafficking training, screening, and identification tools and efforts;

(4) operate the Blue Campaign’s nationwide public awareness effort and any other awareness efforts needed to encourage victim identification and reporting to law enforcement and to prevent human trafficking; and

(5) coordinate external engagement, including training and events, regarding human trafficking with critical partners, including survivors, nongovernmental organizations, corporations, multilateral entities, law enforcement agencies, and other interested parties.

SEC. 4. SPECIALIZED INITIATIVES.

(a) HUMAN TRAFFICKING INFORMATION MODERNIZATION INITIATIVE.—The CCHT Director, in conjunction with the Science and Technology Directorate Office of Science and Engineering, shall develop a strategy and proposal to modify systems and processes throughout the Department of Homeland Security that are related to CCHT’s mission in order to—

(1) decrease the response time to access victim protections;

(2) accelerate lead development;

(3) advance the identification of human trafficking characteristics and trends;

(4) fortify the security and protection of sensitive information;

(5) apply analytics to automate manual processes; and

(6) provide artificial intelligence and machine learning to increase system capabilities and enhance data availability, reliability, comparability, and verifiability.